

to the National Service Life Insurance Fund such sums as may be necessary to cover all losses incurred and premiums waived under paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection.

“(4) The benefits and privileges extended by this section are hereby so extended by the Congress because many of the personnel of our armed forces (1) were unable to comply with the prerequisites necessary to the granting of insurance by reason of extended duty in the North Atlantic, Hawaii, the Philippines, and other outlying bases; (2) had failed or neglected to apply for such insurance in the expectation that their service would be peacetime service only; and (3) by reason of the suddenness with which war was thrust upon us, had not sufficient time to apply for such insurance prior to engaging in combat. The Congress hereby declares that no further relief of such character will be granted.”

Approved, December 20, 1941.

[CHAPTER 603]

AN ACT

To facilitate standardization and uniformity of procedure relating to determination of service connection of injuries or diseases alleged to have been incurred in or aggravated by active service in a war, campaign, or expedition.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby authorized and directed to include in the regulations pertaining to service connection of disabilities additional provisions in effect requiring that in each case where a veteran is seeking service connection for any disability due consideration shall be given to the places, types, and circumstances of his service as shown by his service record, the official history of each organization in which he served, his medical records, and all pertinent medical and lay evidence.

In the case of any veteran who engaged in combat with the enemy in active service with a military or naval organization of the United States during some war, campaign, or expedition, the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized and directed to accept as sufficient proof of service connection of any disease or injury alleged to have been incurred in or aggravated by service in such war, campaign, or expedition, satisfactory lay or other evidence of service incurrence or aggravation of such injury or disease, if consistent with the circumstances, conditions, or hardships of such service, notwithstanding the fact that there is no official record of such incurrence or aggravation in such service, and, to that end, shall resolve every reasonable doubt in favor of such veteran: *Provided*, That service connection of such injury or disease may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence to the contrary. The reasons for granting or denying service connection in each such case shall be recorded in full.

Approved, December 20, 1941.

[CHAPTER 604]

AN ACT

Authorizing advancements from the Federal Works Administrator for the provision of certain defense public works and equipment in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia (herein called the “Commissioners”) are hereby authorized to accept advancements for the District of Columbia from the Federal Works Administrator (herein called the “Administrator”), and the Administrator, under and sub-

54 Stat. 1012.
38 U. S. C. § 805.

Reasons for extending benefits.

December 20, 1941
[H. R. 4905]
[Public Law 361]

Veterans.
Determination of service connection of disabilities.

Proof of service connection.

Provided.
Rebuttal evidence.

December 20, 1941
[H. R. 5800]
[Public Law 362]

District of Columbia.
Advancements for defense public works.

Ante, p. 361.

ject to the provisions of the Act of June 28, 1941 (Public, Numbered 137, Seventy-seventh Congress), is authorized to advance the sum of \$2,500,000, or any part thereof, in addition to any sums heretofore advanced to the District of Columbia, out of funds authorized by law for the Administrator, for the acquisition, purchase, construction, establishment, and development of defense public works and equipment, and all sums so advanced shall be deposited in full with the Secretary of the Treasury to the credit of the District of Columbia.

Use of funds.

SEC. 2. The sum authorized by section 1 hereof, or any part thereof, shall, when advanced, be available to the Commissioners for the acquisition by dedication, purchase, or condemnation of the fee-simple title to improved or unimproved land, or rights or easements in land, for the public uses authorized by this Act; for the demolition of structures, buildings, and improvements on lands or interests in land acquired under this Act; for the construction of buildings, water facilities, sewer facilities, highways, fire-alarm extensions, and other public works, including materials and labor, heating, lighting, elevators, plumbing, landscaping, and all other appurtenances, and the purchase and installation of pipe lines, machinery, furniture, equipment, apparatus, and any and all other expenditures necessary for or incident to the complete construction and equipment for use of the aforesaid buildings, plants, and facilities; and for the making of surveys and the preparation of plans, designs, estimates, models, and specifications; and for architectural, engineering, and other professional services and other technical and administrative personnel without reference to the civil-service requirements, or the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, and section 3709 of the Revised Statutes; for the rental of such office facilities as may in the opinion of the Commissioners be necessary.

42 Stat. 1488.
5 U. S. C. §§ 661-674.
Ante, p. 613.
41 U. S. C. § 5.

Repayment.

SEC. 3. The Federal Works Administrator shall be repaid such portion as may be determined by the President of any moneys advanced under section 1 of this Act in annual installments over a period of not to exceed ten years, with interest thereon beginning July 1, 1942, for the period of amortization: *Provided*, That such interest shall be at such rate as would, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Treasury, be the lowest interest rate available to the District of Columbia on the date of the approval of this Act were said District authorized by law to issue and sell obligations to the public, at the par value thereof, in a sum equal to the repayable amounts of such advances, maturing serially over a period of ten years in approximately equal annual installments, including both principal and interest, and secured by a first pledge of and lien upon all the general-fund revenues of said District: *Provided further*, That such sums as may be necessary for the reimbursement herein required of the District of Columbia, and for the payment of interest, shall be included in the annual estimates of the Commissioners, the first reimbursement to be made on July 1, 1943: *And provided further*, That whenever the District of Columbia is under obligation by virtue of the provisions of section 4 of Public Act Numbered 284, Seventy-first Congress, and section 3 of Public Act Numbered 746, Seventy-fifth Congress, reimbursement under those Acts shall be not less than \$700,000 in any one fiscal year.

Proriso.
Interest rate.

Inclusion in annual estimates.

Reimbursement under designated Acts.

46 Stat. 485.
D. C. Code § 8-106
note.
52 Stat. 1204.
D. C. Code § 9-210.

Repayment of water and highway projects.

Report to Congress.

SEC. 4. The Commissioners are hereby authorized to make reimbursement to the Administrator under section 3 hereof for water projects and highway projects, respectively, from the water fund and the gas-tax fund of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 5. The Commissioners shall submit with their annual estimates to the Congress a report of their activities and expenditures under section 1 of this Act.

Approved, December 20, 1941.